

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A hermetic compressor assembly, ~~comprising: of claim 2~~
~~wherein said exterior surface is~~

a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall with an interior surface and a cylindrical exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture extending through said housing wall and communicating with said interior space;

a motor and a compressor mechanism operably coupled with said motor disposed within said interior space;

a terminal block mounted on said housing wall proximate said aperture, said terminal block having and said mating surface is a concave mating surface flushly engaged with said cylindrical exterior surface of said housing wall and forming a hermetic seal with said cylindrical exterior surface, said concave mating surface encircling said aperture; and

at least one terminal pin mounted in said terminal block and extending through said aperture.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The hermetic compressor assembly of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein said at least one terminal pin comprises a terminal pin assembly threadingly engaging a threaded opening defined by said terminal block.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The hermetic compressor assembly of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein said at least one terminal pin has an outwardly projecting end and said assembly further comprises a cover securable to said terminal block wherein said cover defines an enclosure for said outwardly projecting end of said at least one terminal pin when said cover is secured

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to said terminal block and wherein said terminal block includes a latching surface securably engageable with said cover.

Claim 6 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 5 wherein said latching surface is defined by a groove formed in said terminal block.

Claim 7 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 5 wherein said cover includes at least one resilient mounting member engageable with said latching surface to secure said cover to said terminal block.

Claim 8 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 7 wherein said at least one mounting member includes a radially inwardly extending tab engageable with said latching surface.

Claim 9 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 7 wherein said terminal block includes a guide surface disposed between said latching surface and a distal end of said terminal block, said guide surface tapering radially inwardly as said guide surface projects from said latching surface toward said distal end.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The hermetic compressor assembly of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein said terminal block is disposed entirely outwardly of said exterior surface of said housing wall.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The hermetic compressor assembly of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein said terminal block includes a portion disposed within said aperture.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The hermetic compressor assembly of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein said terminal block is welded to said exterior surface of said housing wall.

Claim 13 (original): A hermetic compressor assembly, said assembly comprising:

a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall with an interior surface and an exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture extending through the wall and in communication with said interior space;

a motor and a compressor mechanism operably coupled with said motor disposed within said interior space;

a terminal block mounted on said housing covering said aperture and forming a hermetic seal with said housing wall, said terminal block defining an annular groove;

at least one terminal pin extending through said terminal block and having an end projecting outwardly from said terminal block; and

a cover having a plurality of radially inwardly projecting tabs engageable with said groove to thereby mount said cover to said terminal block with said cover substantially enclosing said outwardly projecting end of said at least one terminal pin.

Claim 14 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 13 wherein said cover includes a plurality of resilient mounting members extending therefrom and said tabs are disposed on respective distal ends of said plurality of resilient mounting members.

Claim 15 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 13 wherein said terminal block includes a guide surface disposed between said annular groove and a distal end of said terminal block, said guide surface tapering radially inwardly as said guide surface projects from said latching surface to said distal end.

Claim 16 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 15 wherein said guide surface forms a frustoconical shape.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A hermetic compressor assembly, said assembly comprising:

a hermetically sealed housing defining an interior space and including a housing wall having an interior surface and an exterior surface, said housing wall defining an aperture in communication with said interior space;

a motor and a compressor mechanism operably coupled with said motor disposed within said interior space;

a terminal block positioned over said aperture, wherein substantially no portion of said terminal block extends into said aperture or engages the sidewall forming said aperture, said terminal block and welded to said exterior surface of said housing at a location spaced radially outwardly of said aperture; and

at least one terminal pin mounted in said terminal block and extending through said aperture.

Claim 18 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 17 wherein said terminal block is disposed entirely outwardly of said exterior surface of said housing wall.

Claim 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 17 wherein said terminal block forms a hermetic seal with said exterior surface of housing wall, said hermetic seal encircling said aperture.

Claim 21 (original): The hermetic compressor assembly of claim 17 wherein said exterior surface of said housing wall has a cylindrical shape and said terminal block defines a concave surface flushly engageable with said exterior surface.

Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 22~~ claim 27 wherein the steps of mounting the terminal block to the housing and forming the hermetic seal between the terminal block and the exterior surface of the housing wall both comprise welding the terminal block to the exterior surface of the housing wall.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 22~~ claim 27 wherein the step of installing at least one terminal pin assembly in the terminal block includes threadingly engaging the at least one terminal pin assembly with the terminal block.

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Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 24 wherein the step of installing at least one terminal pin assembly in the terminal block is performed prior to mounting the terminal block on the housing.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 24 wherein the step of installing at least one terminal pin assembly in the terminal block is performed after mounting the terminal block on the housing.

Claim 27 (currently amended): ~~The A method of claim 22 wherein the exterior surface of the housing wall has a~~ assembling a hermetic compressor comprising:

providing a housing having a housing wall with an interior surface and a cylindrical shape and said method further includes exterior surface;

forming an aperture in the housing wall;

installing at least one terminal pin in a terminal block;

forming a concave mating surface on the terminal block wherein the mating surface is flushly engageable with the cylindrical exterior surface of the housing wall;

mounting the terminal block on the housing wherein the terminal block covers the aperture; and

forming a hermetic seal between the terminal block and the exterior surface of the housing wall wherein said hermetic seal circumscribes the aperture.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 22~~ claim 27 further comprising the step of forming a groove in the terminal block whereby a cover may be engaged with the groove to thereby secure the cover to the terminal block.